

III. REMARKS

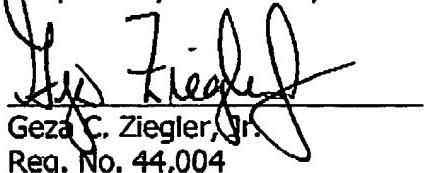
1. Claims 1-20 are not unpatentable over Ohtani (U.S. Patent No. 5,3844,207) in view of Kubo et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,842,626 ("Kubo") and Mote et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,563,927) ("Mote") under U.S.C. § 103(a).

Mote is commonly owned by the Applicant of the instant application and is only prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Thus, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103(c), Mote does not qualify as prior art for purposes of 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,



Geza C. Ziegler, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,004

23 Feb 2006

Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to **571-273-8300** on the date indicated below, addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Date: Feb 23, 2006

Signature: Meaghan Baye

Meaghan Baye.

Person Making Deposit